



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Telephone (808) 948-7361

RL:0767

SB 2882 SD 2 RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY

Statement for
House Committee on
Planning, Energy, and Environmental Protection
Public Hearing - March 16, 1988

By
Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center
John Harrison, Environmental Center
Ray Tabata, Sea Grant
Peter Rappa, Sea Grant

SB 2882 SD 2 would provide funds to the Office of the Legislative Auditor to carry out an assessment of the market for recycled materials; other states recycling programs; the viability of a recycling program in Hawaii; and if viable, a draft of recommended legislation.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We most strongly support the intent of this bill. The economic and environmental costs of current solid and liquid waste disposal practices have been called to our attention through problems related to ground water contamination, potential hazards associated with disposal of incinerator ash, potential air pollution, and the ever increasing need for space for land fills. The only responsible approach is the reduction of the waste stream and recycling. This approach has been promulgated by recent federal regulations relative to the waste disposal issue and has been strongly supported by the State Department of Health.

In providing testimony on related bills, the Environmental Center has compiled substantial information from a broad spectrum of academic perspectives pertinent to solid and liquid waste recycling and disposal. Furthermore, we have close working relationships with legal professionals within the University that are cognizant of nationwide legislative initiatives on these issues.

We fully support the intent of this legislation and would be pleased to assist the Legislative Reference Bureau if studies by University personnel would be helpful.

A Unit of Water Resources Research Center

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER